

**CARBOCYANINE DYES FOR TANDEM PHOTODIAGNOSTIC AND
THERAPEUTIC APPLICATIONS**

ABSTRACT

Novel tumor specific phototherapeutic and photodiagnostic agents are disclosed. The compounds consist of a carbocyanine dye for visualization, photosensitizer for photodynamic treatment, and tumor receptor-avid peptide for site-specific delivery of the probe and phototoxic agent to diseased tissues.

- 5 A combination of these elements takes full advantage of the unique and efficient properties of each component for an effective patient care management.